>

Title : Need to declare sea erosion as a calamity for assistance from Calamity Relief Fund (CRF) and National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF).

DR. K.S. MANOJ (ALLEPPEY): Sir, coastal line of Kerala is subjected to severe sea erosion throughout the year and is more during monsoon months. During the monsoon, coastal line is vastly affected. In my constituency Alappuzha alone, nearly sixty houses were fully destroyed and nearly two hundred houses were partially damaged. This is the same along the entire coast of Kerala. This is repeating every year. The State Government has to spend a huge amount every year for the rehabilitation of those affected families. But unfortunately the State of Kerala does not get any Central assistance since the sea erosion is not considered as a natural calamity as per the Government of India guidelines.

The Government of Kerala has represented this matter before the Union Home Ministry and was informed that CRF norms are fixed by the Finance Commission.

Considering the devastation caused by these natural calamities, I would urge upon the Government to include natural calamities, sea erosion, landslides and lightning under natural calamity norms set-up by Government of India and assistance under Calamity Relief Fund (CRF) and National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF) should be provided for the sufferers of these catastrophes.